

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 19, 21, 24-27, 30-32, and 34-36 are pending. Amended claims 19, 21, 24-27, and 30-32 conform antecedent basis, and introduce no new matter. The paragraph numbering below follows that of the Detailed Action.

- ¶1. Applicants elect Restriction Group II (claims 31, 32, and 36) without traverse.
- ¶2. Applicants understand claims 1, 19, 21, 24-27, and 34 will be examined as linking claims pursuant to MPEP 809.
- ¶5. Claims 1, 19, 21, 24-27, 31, 32, 34, and 36 are encompassed by the election.
- ¶6. Applicants elect gelatin as a species of the cross-linked protein presently recited in claims 35 and 36.
- ¶9. Applicants elect polyoxyethylene as a species of the non-biological polymer presently recited in claims 31, 32, and 36.
- ¶10. Applicants elect glycosaminoglycan as a species of the polysaccharide presently recited in claims 30, 32, and 35.
- ¶11. Applicants elect gelatin as a species of the non-cross-linked polymeric material presently recited in claims 34, 35, and 36.
- ¶¶12,13. Claims 1, 19, 21, 24-27, 31, 32, 34, and 36 are encompassed by the election.
- ¶16. Pending claims 1, 19, 21, 24-27, 30-32, and 34-36 are drawn to compositions.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

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